OPINION 56-9

June 4, 1956 (OPINION)

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

RE: Retail Licenses - Responsibility for Minors on Premises

We have received your letter of May 31, 1956, in regard to interpretation of section 5-0504 of the 1953 Supplement, which prohibits permitting persons under twenty-one years of age to be in any room wherein is operated or maintained a bar, on or over which beer or alcohol and alcoholic beverages are sold, furnished or distributed.

It has always been our position that this section of the code must be read as a whole and that a licensee is responsible when minors are permitted in his licensed place, whether he is personally present or not. We do not think this has ever been tested in the courts but we feel confident that a court would agree with our interpretation of this law.

LESLIE R. BURGUM

Attorney General